

PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Docket 13-035-184 Solar Power \$4.25 rate increase

Limessage

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"At long last, the Koch brothers and their conservative allies in state government have found a new tax they can support. Naturally it's a tax on something the country needs: solar energy panels." (see New York Times editorial, 4/27/14).

Not surprisingly, our own Rocky Mountain Power proposes a new \$4.25 monthly fee for customers who make personal investments in clean energy. This includes me and my solar panels.

I have a written *contract* with RMP to purchase energy I generate with these panels, using an arrangement called net metering (running my meter backwards when I am supplying power). I pay the usual monthly service charge to maintain the RMP system and the residental rate for power I purchase. Is it fair to change this contract agreement with a new charge? I relied on the RMP contract terms when I invested in the panels.

Net metering encourages solar energy. My clean energy is provided during hot summer days when usage peaks. This reduces pollution from coal and gas generation. Forward-thinking electric utilities are designing new ways to increase renewables in our future energy supply. RMP is protecting the past. We must transition to a cleaner, reliable, and efficient power system now. The Public Service Commission should reject this foolish idea.

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